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# MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Monthly Review of  
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK, LABOR SUPPLY, LABOR DEMAND, CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

## MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE Division of Unemployment Compensation Commission of Montana

Albert F. Root, Commissioner

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FL-155

JANUARY 15, 1956

### 154,700 Wage Earners On December Payrolls

Seasonal decline in non-farm employment from November to December in Montana was 1,900, according to estimates compiled for the Commission-BLS series. The figures are 154,700 on payrolls as of December 15. A year ago there were 150,600 wage earners, depleted because of after-effects of a metal mining work stoppage. Two years ago December employment set the record for the month with 156,400 and in the December previous to that there were 154,900 for second ranking. These are the only previous Decembers outranking the one just closed for employment volume.

#### Down 5.7 Percent from August

Effect of November's severe weather, which continued also through December, is discernible in the diminished numbers on payrolls of industries subject to seasonal fluctuations at this period. As compared with high employment levels in the preceding August, this December's figure shows a shrinkage of 9,300, or 5.7 percent. In 1953 the corresponding period showed an employment decline of 2.6 percent, in 1952 it was 3.8 percent, 1951 lost 2.6 percent, and 1950 showed 5.3 down. Last year the decline was 6.7 for the same period, accentuated by effects of the metal mining stoppage.

#### Seasonal Industries Affected

Principal seasonal dips in employment during December are found in logging and lumbering at 500 below the November count, food processing with a decline of 700, contract construction 1,300 below November figures, transportation 300 down, service industries also down 300, and the mining group just 100 short of the previous month. This mining dip was all in petroleum production. All these industries are subject to the annual seasonal fluctuation. Gains were recorded in trade with 600 up and government a 500 increase, both connected with the holiday trade and postal service increase in labor needs.

#### Exceeds Year Ago Employment

The upswing in employment this December as compared with a year ago, amounting to an increase of 4,100 in non-farm employment, reveals evidences of the depth of employment inroads resulting from the work stoppage a year ago. For comparison of seasonal movements the figures for December of 1953 offer a sounder base.

#### Heavier Decline Than in 1953

In 1953 the employment decline, August to December, was 4,200, while this year the difference is 9,300, an indication of the extent of early seasonal layoffs and force reductions resulting from severe and early winter conditions during the past two months. Following the favorable August to December record in 1953, however, the employment figure plunged downward 9,800 to January, 1954, thus absorbing a heavy seasonal reduction in a single month.

### YEAR OPENS ON INCREASED LABOR SUPPLY AS CREWS REDUCE IN SEASONAL INDUSTRY

Levels of surplus labor continued to rise in Montana labor markets during December. Figures on active job-applicants at offices of the employment service indicate December layoffs and reduction of force in vulnerable seasonal industries added 2,400 to the available labor supply, after November had dumped 3,600 into the same category. Construction, logging and lumbering, food processing, railroad maintenance, farm operations, and other industries subject to seasonal interruption, all contributed to the mounting total of unemployment.

#### From 700 to 1,800 More than Recent Years

Active jobseekers at the turn of the year numbered 9,300, from 700 to 1,700 more than at the start of the years 1950 to 1955. The number is almost certain to advance in January as result of further layoffs in outdoor industries and the usual decline in retail and wholesale trade employment. While this is a normal seasonal movement it is also true that unemployment figures rose at an earlier date than common, due to the weatherman's decision to dish out winter weather at an earlier date and in more unusual abundance than the customary schedule.

#### Work-Applicant Count in Review

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
January .....	12,887	12,270	10,616	10,370	11,685	18,048
March .....	11,979	11,075	9,323	9,392	10,844	16,085
May .....	5,565	6,191	4,324	3,276	4,312	6,755
July .....	4,628	4,283	3,249	2,191	3,260	3,920
September .....	2,781	3,782	2,288	1,388	2,304	2,578
November .....	6,968	5,617	5,048	4,135	4,341	5,349
December .....	9,351	8,613	7,932	7,517	6,694	8,329

#### Surplus Dates from November

Numerically, the increase in work-applicants from November to December this year was 2,383, as compared to approximately 3,000 for the same period in each of the five preceding years, and 4,000 in the closing months of 1949. The present surplus, therefore, is due in large part to conditions in November and earlier. Should December moderation continue with respect to January the peak labor supply will be back to about a normal level. The January figures in recent past years have shown additions of 4,274, 4,338, 3,099, 3,676, 3,356 from the preceding December, and in 1950 it was 7,316.

#### Construction Employment Diminishes

Virtually all construction projects involving excavation or outdoor work have been closed during most of November and December. This included work on the new airbase at Glasgow, on the Noxon dam in western Montana, and on buildings and expansions in Billings, Great Falls, Bozeman, Missoula, and Helena. Resumption at most of these points is not expected until more moderate weather gives promise of reasonable continuity. Railroad truck crews are down to minimum and emergency numbers.

#### Logging Nears Winter Minimum

Curtailment of logging and lumbering operations has been more pronounced than normal, due to difficulties resulting from heavy snow and ice accumulations. Some further layoffs are anticipated. Completion of the season run has been reported for several of the sugar refineries in the state, and others will conclude in early January, releasing further labor supply. Many of those workers are from farms and domestic sources, not normally in the general labor market.

#### Highway Jobs at Season Low

State highway construction is at its season low at 275, employed on 97 miles of highway, five bridges and two gravel piling contracts. Maintenance crews in December numbered 715, against 731 in November. An imposing backlog of contracted projects awaits clearing weather, including 206 miles of highway and four bridge jobs upon which work was started but has been suspended, and ninety miles of road and ten bridge projects for which contracts are awarded but no work begun.

#### Hard-Rock Miners in Demand

Metal mining and processing of its products maintains a stable employment pattern through the winter months. Additional hiring of miners has been reported during recent weeks, some of them coming from Idaho where a wage difference has lured substantial numbers of experienced men. Openings remain for additional qualified miners. Employment in smelters is at less than capacity level, due to temporary closing of minor sections in response to market conditions. At the new aluminum plant in the Flathead full employment of 500 is reported, with no material variation expected.

#### Postal and Trade Extras Released

Holiday trade resulted in heavier than usual employment in retail stores, wholesale establishments, and for handling the mail. Much of this extra help has already been released, or will be back in the labor market by mid-January. Service establishments, particularly auto repair shops, are likewise curtailing their crews as the general economic pattern tightens through the winter months.

## Along the Hiring Line— Field Summary Jan. 1

**ANACONDA, Deer Lodge, Phillipsburg**—(121 jobseekers; 71 men, 50 women; 29 men and 18 women over 45) Labor demand low during December, winter level. Smelter employment has been steady, with light turn-over since switch to six day week, but ferro-manganese division faces probable layoffs as its production has out-run demand. Employees of hotels and restaurants still idle while wage dispute is prolonged.

**BILLINGS, Columbus, Hardin, Hysham, Laurel, Red Lodge, Roundup**—(1,049 jobseekers; 872 men, 177 women; 230 men and 59 women over 45) The earlier-than-normal layoffs in seasonal operations continue in effect, with addition of sugar plant workers, who reached end of their fall campaign in late December and early January. About 550 separations resulted, half of whom are not normally in labor market. Very little further depletion in employed ranks is expected, but re-employment process shows no sign of resumption, until probably in February.

**BOZEMAN, Ennis, Three Forks, Trident**—(508 jobseekers; 435 men, 73 women; 29 men and 4 women over 45) Logging and pulpwood crews resumed nearly normal strength during December, after earlier halt, but are subject to further interruptions from severe weather in January or February. Several building crews have gone back to work under similar limitations. Start of new high school building expected to be made in January. Cement plant has trimmed its crews to winter strength. Farm labor demand extremely low, a few calls for feeders.

**BUTTE, Virginia City, Whitehall**—(693 jobseekers; 480 men, 213 women; 194 men and 91 women over 45) Hiring of hard-rock miners was accelerated in December by absorption of applicants from Idaho area closed by strike. Still some winter-season miners returning from outdoor summer work. Demand for additional miners continues. Retail trade and postal service furnished holiday demand which is leading to corresponding force reductions in early January.

**CUT BANK**—(122 jobseekers; 108 men, 14 women; 26 men and 3 women over 45) Severe weather halted virtually all outdoor work and reduced labor demand to a minimum, reaching mid-winter levels several weeks earlier than the usual experience. Construction is continuing on limited scale on small projects. Most oil drilling operations have been curtailed.

**DILLON**—(121 jobseekers; 74 men, 47 women; 32 men and 20 women over 45) Small logging crews and several small remote mines closed operations in December as winter conditions persisted, probably until spring. Construction work on residences was already halted. Inside work continues

### Employment—

Industrial Employment 154,700  
New Job Applicants 4,075  
Job Applicants, end of month 9,351

1955  
Dec.1955  
Nov.1954  
Dec.Dec. Avg.  
1950-1954

154,700

156,600

150,600

152,300

4,075

4,330

3,790

3,676

9,351

6,968

8,613

7,817

### Insured Unemployment—

New and Renewal Claims 1,916  
Unemployed Weeks Filed 6,581  
Total Unemployment Claims 8,497

Jan. 6  
1956Dec. 9  
1955Jan. 7  
1955Avg. 1st  
Jan. Wk.  
1951-1955

1,916

1,258

2,289

2,011

6,581

4,634

5,369

5,069

8,497

5,892

7,658

7,080

on school building and garage. Railroad hired snow-shovelers and stockmen hired feeders for only labor demand felt during December.

**GLASGOW, Fort Peck, Malta, Opheim**—(411 jobseekers; 334 men, 77 women; 88 men and 22 women over 45) Work on the new airport project is at a standstill in face of solid winter weather. About 25 office and maintenance workers retained. Office building in Glasgow completed, hotel nearly finished, other construction employment sharply reduced.

**GLENDIVE, Circle, Wibaux**—(198 jobseekers; 159 men, 39 women; 36 men and 10 women over 45) Contract construction operations virtually all closed down for the winter, with no new starts in prospect until weather moderates. Oil field and service employment is likewise at low winter level, confined to maintenance and essential posts only. Farm hiring is only for feeding livestock, with supply greater than demand.

**GREAT FALLS, Choteau, Fort Benton, Stanford**—(888 jobseekers; 692 men, 196 women; 279 men and 32 women over 45) Some building projects re-opened in December with moderation of the weather pattern, easing the labor surplus to slight extent. Dirt moving jobs are still tied up by deep frost and new construction projects are awaiting more favorable working conditions. Retail and wholesale trade employment moved upward through December but will subside early in January. Active applicants are mostly from seasonal operations and are slightly fewer than a month ago and also than a year ago.

**HAMILTON, Stevensville**—(373 jobseekers; 318 men, 55 women; 114 men, 17 women over 45) Labor surplus fifty percent greater than a year ago, due to seasonal force reductions earlier than normal bad weather. Sawmills and logging camps nearly all closed, road construction suspended, building of new homes and improvement projects curtailed. An open pit mine forced by cold and snow to suspend.

**HAYRE, Chinook, Harlem**—(288 jobseekers; 237 men, 51 women; 52 men and 6 women over 45) Employment delved to

minimum level in November, and remains there as winter conditions persist. Outlook is poor until April, resumption of construction work on buildings, roads, railroads under present circumstances not feasible. Retail trade forces will diminish in early January. Railroads using minimum forces. Two road jobs and a new armory building contracted, start when conditions permit.

**HELENA, Boulder, Garrison, Townsend, White Sulphur Springs**—(518 jobseekers; 423 men, 95 women; 163 men and 28 women over 45) Labor supply increased through December, even in face of hiring for holiday work in stores and postal circles. Most construction projects have been closed since mid-November, probably until spring. One building job enclosed and continues finishing work. College building program to start in January. Smelters operating with slightly reduced crews.

**KALISPELL, Columbia Falls, Eureka, Libby, Whitefish**—(1,208 jobseekers; 1,021 men, 187 women; 429 men and 67 women over 45) Very light labor demands during December, accompanied by continuation of the layoffs begun in November. Nearly all construction jobs are idle, and logging and lumbering operations have been either curtailed or halted. A few lumber operations are continuing, on normal pattern, and will be idle during spring breakup and overhaul period.

**LEWISTOWN, Harlowton, Ryegate, Winnett**—(206 jobseekers; 149 men, 57 women; 35 men and 28 women over 45) An intermittent resumption of construction jobs during December served to temper the unemployment growth in temporary fashion. One building job now enclosed, will employ a small crew in finishing. New store building halted for the winter. Road and building program for spring looks encouraging.

**LIVINGSTON, Big Timber**—(354 jobseekers; 267 men, 87 women; 121 men and 33 women over 45) Construction employment is now at winter low, virtually all crews idle. Bank building completed, park work on roads and buildings all down for the winter but heavy spring program expected. Railroad program continues bleak.

## EIGHT YEARS OF MONTANA INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT TOTALS, BY MONTHS (in Thousands)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Aver.
1948	134.4	132.0	133.2	137.1	140.6	145.8	148.9	150.3	151.4	149.6	149.4	147.7	143.4
1949	137.1	135.5	137.7	144.0	147.3	151.0	150.0	150.1	149.8	148.2	146.1	143.3	145.0
1950	133.2	132.2	135.2	142.1	147.3	153.6	154.9	157.1	156.8	152.2	150.7	148.8	147.0
1951	141.9	139.4	140.3	145.9	149.4	154.1	153.5	154.6	154.3	152.4	151.7	150.6	149.0
1952	140.5	140.7	143.0	149.7	154.8	159.9	159.5	161.2	160.4	157.9	156.0	154.9	153.2
1953	145.8	144.5	146.3	149.7	153.1	158.0	158.5	160.6	160.3	159.6	157.6	156.4	154.2
1954	145.6	145.4	147.1	150.7	155.1	160.3	161.3	161.4	152.3	150.2	152.3	150.6	152.8
1955	144.6	143.2	144.2	148.3	154.1	160.6	162.4	164.0	162.7	160.4	156.6	154.7	154.6

## Along the Hiring Line— Field Summary Jan. 1

low employment in shops and roundhouse, while operating forces are light. One sawmill operating, others dormant; several logging crews continue despite deep snows.

**MILES CITY, Baker, Broadus, Ekalaka, Colstrip, Forsyth**—(262 jobseekers; 222 men, 40 women; 75 men and 13 women over 45) Adverse weather during December prevented any notable resumption of outside work and kept the labor demand at a minimum. No construction work operating, and spring prospect not super bright. Only farm hiring is for stock feeders, earlier than usual seasonal experience. Stores and shops increased employment for holiday period, now are laying off surplus workers.

**MISSOULA, Drummond, Arlee, Superior**—(794 jobseekers; 603 men, 191 women; 193 men and 56 women over 45) All outdoor activities hampered by winter weather. Hiring of extra holiday help not up to expected levels. Little change expected until spring, meantime area labor supply is more than sufficient. No big projects in immediate area to reduce the surplus. Construction contractors have no plans for resuming work until March and the employment picture for sawmills and woods work depends upon favorable weather for activation.

**POLSON**—(471 jobseekers; 418 men, 73 women; 119 men and 7 women over 45) Peak of unemployment is approaching, or already reached. Layoff and force reductions began 30 days earlier than normal, on account of early storms. Plywood plant may possibly resume in January, using 30 to 60 workers. Lumber and logging outfits through for the winter.

**SHELBY, Chester, Conrad, Tiber Dam**—(152 jobseekers; 121 men, 31 women; 8 men and 4 women over 45) Outside work remains dormant, since November 10. Contractors have no prospect of resuming until spring. Flow of work applicants continues heavy, with some out-migration. Oil field employment also at normal winter level.

**SIDNEY**—(171 jobseekers; 150 men, 21 women; 39 men and 5 women over 45) Outside activities restricted by cold weather and snow. No construction projects of moment operating, probably will not resume until spring. A clinic building has been completed. Some decline in employment of mechanics in motor repair shops. Farm hiring is confined to stock feeders, much earlier than normal.

**THOMPSON FALLS, Hot Springs**—(224 jobseekers; 188 men, 36 women; 57 men and 12 women over 45) Clearing for the Noxon dam project has virtually ceased, awaiting better weather; slight preliminary activity connected with recent contracts for new railroad bridges made necessary by the dam, and work may start on limited scale in January. Re-location of 17 miles of main track also contracted, with early start expected. Lumbering employment has been hard hit by the early winter.

**WOLF POINT, Plentywood, Scobey**—(219 jobseekers; 195 men, 24 women; 33 men and 4 women over 45) Some efforts at work resumption of construction contracts in December, but little progress resulted. Layoffs almost complete in construction and agriculture, and noted also in garage crews, taverns, and cafes. Oil drilling at low level in winter, only one crew now. Three exploring crews still active.

## ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN MONTANA (1)

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT			Net Change	
	Dec. 1955 (2)	Nov. 1955 (3)	Dec. 1954	Nov. '55 to Dec. '55	Dec. '54 to Dec. '55
<b>NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES</b>	154,700	156,600	150,600	—1,900	4,100
<b>Manufacturing</b> .....	18,900	20,000	18,700	—1,100	200
Durable goods .....	11,100	11,600	10,700	— 500	400
Lumber and timber products.....	5,600	6,100	5,700	— 500	100
Primary metals.....	4,300	4,300	3,800	0	500
Other (4).....	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0
Nondurable goods.....	7,800	8,400	8,000	— 600	— 200
Food and kindred products.....	3,900	4,600	4,000	— 700	— 100
Printing and publishing.....	1,500	1,500	1,700	0	— 200
Petroleum refining.....	1,400	1,300	1,300	100	100
Other (5).....	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
<b>Mining</b> .....	11,100	11,200	11,000	— 100	100
Metal mining .....	7,900	7,900	7,600	0	300
Coal, quarrying and nonmetallic .....	800	800	900	0	— 100
Petroleum-natural gas production .....	2,400	2,500	2,500	— 100	— 100
<b>Contract Construction</b> .....	8,700	10,000	8,500	—1,300	200
Contractors, building construction .....	3,300	3,800	3,900	— 500	— 600
Contractors, other than building .....	2,100	2,900	1,700	— 800	400
Contractors, special trade .....	3,300	3,300	2,900	0	400
<b>Transportation and utilities</b> .....	21,600	21,900	20,800	— 300	800
Interstate railroads .....	12,400	12,800	12,000	— 400	400
Transportation except railroads .....	3,600	3,500	3,500	100	100
Utilities including communication .....	5,600	5,600	5,300	0	300
<b>Trade</b> .....	40,400	39,800	39,500	600	900
Wholesale trade .....	9,000	8,900	8,500	100	500
Retail trade .....	31,400	30,900	31,000	500	400
General merchandise and apparel.....	6,300	5,600	6,600	700	— 300
Food stores .....	4,500	4,500	4,700	0	— 200
Eating and drinking establishments.....	7,200	7,400	7,300	— 200	— 100
Automotive and filling stations .....	6,200	6,400	5,900	— 200	300
Retail trade not elsewhere classified.....	7,200	7,100	6,500	200	700
<b>Finance, insurance and real estate</b> .....	5,800	5,700	5,200	100	600
<b>Services and miscellaneous</b> .....	19,100	19,400	19,100	— 300	0
Hotels, rooming houses, camps, etc. ....	2,500	2,600	2,400	— 100	100
Personal services .....	2,200	2,200	2,200	0	0
Other (6) .....	14,400	14,600	14,500	— 200	— 100
<b>Government</b> .....	29,100	28,600	27,800	500	1,300
Federal .....	6,700	6,100	6,000	600	— 200
State and local .....	22,400	22,500	21,900	— 100	1,500
<b>Great Falls Area (Cascade County)</b> .....	18,300	18,300	17,900	0	400
Manufacturing .....	2,700	2,700	2,700	0	0
Contract construction .....	1,300	1,300	1,200	— 300	100
Transportation and utilities .....	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
Trade, wholesale and retail .....	6,100	6,000	6,000	100	100
Services and miscellaneous (7) .....	3,400	3,300	3,300	100	100
Government .....	2,300	2,200	2,200	100	0

(1) Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, firm members, personnel of the armed forces, domestic servants, and self-employed persons are excluded.

(2) Preliminary estimates based on return from sample of 619 selected Montana establishments.

(3) Figures previously released have been revised on returns from 1,055 such establishments.

(4) Includes fabricated metal products, machinery except electrical, furniture, stone and clay products.

(5) Includes apparel, chemicals, and miscellaneous manufacturing products.

(6) Includes commercial trade schools, auto repair services and garages, miscellaneous repair services and hand trades, motion pictures, amusements and recreation, medical and health, law offices and professional services, nonprofit membership organizations and business not otherwise classified.

(7) Same as (6) above, also includes finance, insurance, real estate and mining.

## COMPARISON OF BASIC LABOR MARKET TRANSACTIONS IN DECEMBER, 1955, AND DECEMBER, 1954

Employment Service Office	New Job Applicants				Jobseekers in File				Job Placements								U. I. Claims Wk. 1-6	
	Dec. 1955		Dec. 1954		Dec. 1955		Dec. 1954		December 1955				December 1954				1956	1955
	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Ind.	Ag.	Tot.	Vet.	Ind.	Ag.	Tot.	Vet.		
Anaconda	65	27	75	29	121	40	160	41	38	8	46	18	100	15	115	39	113	164
Billings	635	262	538	203	1,049	351	1,074	397	297	54	351	184	372	42	414	252	962	1,215
Bozeman	140	42	128	51	508	148	285	72	111	29	140	39	189	27	216	79	177	213
Butte	305	107	276	102	693	173	1,085	254	448	65	513	214	289	—	289	109	480	637
Cut Bank	100	37	66	36	122	64	140	60	19	6	25	17	22	—	22	13	172	140
Dillon	59	24	65	23	121	38	83	24	26	42	68	35	43	37	80	32	62	70
Glasgow	112	57	96	39	411	167	318	114	80	7	87	54	93	23	116	40	358	249
Glendive	97	32	137	50	198	58	123	29	16	19	65	22	121	27	148	55	158	183
Great Falls	47	183	443	105	888	397	957	374	180	30	210	70	165	61	226	104	925	779
Hamilton	108	33	83	30	373	121	246	73	10	—	10	4	15	4	19	4	288	218
Havre	148	44	105	44	288	122	216	98	63	7	70	18	75	14	89	33	295	227
Helena	229	104	266	109	518	201	492	220	87	20	107	46	114	28	142	80	445	360
Kalispell	283	91	336	102	1,208	472	1,002	359	70	13	83	25	53	9	62	35	1,140	821
Lewistown	86	39	123	46	206	78	215	68	28	13	41	19	32	13	45	22	190	180
Livingston	96	27	128	57	354	114	261	83	19	3	22	8	41	14	55	21	382	354
Miles City	156	72	98	41	262	102	282	122	13	18	31	16	78	24	102	36	252	285
Missoula	421	145	261	79	794	291	805	287	106	25	131	53	147	8	155	78	806	699
Polson	84	27	97	37	471	176	286	98	45	—	45	18	9	1	10	4	498	323
Shelby	137	29	119	50	152	52	244	85	43	7	50	14	44	10	54	30	178	159
Sidney	144	34	102	29	171	59	148	49	25	12	37	9	52	9	61	23	146	168
Thomp. Fls.**	48	16	—	—	224	72	—	—	14	—	14	8	—	—	—	—	237	—
Wolf Point	134	66	148	51	219	105	191	89	23	6	29	16	28	12	40	9	233	215
TOTALS	4,075	1,496	3,790	1,313	9,351	3,401	8,613	2,996	1,791	384	2,175	907	2,082	378	2,460	1,098	8,497	7,658

\* Includes 332 claims of Federal Employees UC program, instituted in 1955. \*\* Office re-opened June 1, 1955.

## AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)  
(Hours and earnings data exclude administrative and salaried personnel)

INDUSTRY	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. (1) 1955	Nov. (2) 1955	Dec. 1954	Dec. (1) 1955	Nov. (2) 1955	Dec. 1954	Dec. (1) 1955	Nov. (2) 1955	Dec. 1954
All Manufacturing	\$87.07	\$85.51	\$79.82	40.6	40.7	39.9	\$2.15	\$2.10	\$2.00
Durable goods	87.10	85.94	78.05	40.7	40.3	39.2	2.14	2.13	1.99
Primary metals	98.32	98.49	77.52	45.1	45.2	40.0	2.18	2.18	1.94
Nondurable goods	86.94	84.87	82.55	40.4	41.4	41.1	2.15	2.05	2.01
Food and kindred products	76.85	79.10	76.64	42.7	44.2	44.5	1.80	1.79	1.72
All Mining	101.31	100.21	83.82	42.7	42.3	38.9	2.37	2.37	2.16
Metal mining	101.91	101.91	80.29	43.2	43.2	38.1	2.36	2.36	2.11
Transportation and Utilities (except railrds.)	80.50	80.61	78.80	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation (except railroads)	94.15	94.87	91.25	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utilities and communication	73.77	73.69	73.07	39.6	39.6	40.6	1.86	1.86	1.80

(1) Preliminary estimates. (2) Figures previously released have been revised on more complete returns.

## UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

## COMMISSION OF MONTANA

MITCHELL BUILDING

P. O. Box 1728

HELENA, MONTANA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL  
United States Postage  
Accounted for Under  
Act of CongressPresident  
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